

Serial No.: 09/683,405
Attorney Docket No.: 3447

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:
obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells,
wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the
second type of cells; and
applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of
cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are plant cells.
13. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:
obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells,
wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the
second type of cells; and
applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of
cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are fungi cells.
14. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:

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obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of cells are gram negative bacteria and the second type of cells are gram positive bacteria.

15. (previously presented): The method of Claim 14 wherein the lysing agent is a relatively mild lysosome digesting agent followed by a cell membrane lysis agent with the conditions that is sufficient for digesting gram negative bacteria and not sufficient for digesting gram positive bacteria.
16. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising: obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of cells are yeast cells and the second type of cells are bacteria or plant cells.
17. (original): The method of Claim 16 wherein the lysis agent is a zymolase, glucalase or lyticase digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent.

18 – 30. (canceled)

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31. (currently amended): A method for detecting nucleic acids comprising:
obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells,
wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the
second type of cells;
applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells;
removing at least 60% of the second type of cells to obtain an isolate;
preparing a nucleic acid sample from the isolate and hybridizing the nucleic acid
sample to a plurality of at least 1000 different nucleic acid probes;
wherein each of the different probes is immobilized on a bead or optical fibre.

32-34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are
animal cells and the second type of cells are plant cells.

36. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are
animal cells and the second type of cells are fungi cells.

37. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are
gram negative bacteria and the second type of cells are gram positive bacteria.

38. (original): The method of Claim 37 wherein the lysing agent is a relatively mild
lysosome digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent with the conditions

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that is sufficient for digesting gram negative bacteria and not sufficient for digesting gram positive bacteria.

39. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are yeast cells and the second type of cells are bacteria or plant cells.
40. (original): The method of Claim 39 wherein the lysis agent is a zymolase, glucalase or lyticase digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent.

41 – 66. (canceled)